



AMERICA INVESTS IN SOUTH AFRICA

"The end of conflict on the African continent is a priority because the advancement of democracy, the establishment of an independent judiciary, the fight against HIV / AIDS and the protection of the environment cannot succeed in the face of conflict.."

Walter Kansteiner
Assistant Secretary
for African Affairs
Department of State



BACKGROUND

South Africa is a leader in the region in promoting regional stability. In July 2002, South Africa began a one-year term as chair of the African Union. The U.S. supports South African-led negotiations aimed at resolving conflicts and at deploying South African peace-keeping troops to neighboring countries, particularly the DRC and Burundi. We share a concern for democracy and the rule of law in Africa. Events in Zimbabwe directly impact South African interests, thus the U.S. continues a dialogue with South African leaders on what steps might be taken to address this multifaceted crisis.

To advance regional stability, the U.S. military and South African National Defense Force (SANDF) have increased their contacts at all levels and stepped up joint exercises that have been mutually beneficial and facilitated interoperability between our military forces. The Defense Committee of the bi-national Consultative Forum meets regularly to discuss activities such as professional training, future exercises aimed at improved readiness, and procurement of military goods and services in both nations.



WHAT IS THE U.S. MISSION DOING?

- We contributed US\$2 million to support South African-led negotiations to end Burundi's civil war and gave an additional US\$6 million for South Africa's Special Protection Unit operating there.
- We manage US\$7.7 million in Foreign Military Funds for equipment, defense reform, and aircraft maintenance to help South Africa respond to peacekeeping requests and future regional disasters.
- International Military Education and Training (IMET) sends South Africans to the U.S. and brings U.S. teams to South Africa to train over 600 military and civilians from Southern Africa on a US\$1.45 million budget each year.
- We gave US\$613,000 in Enhanced International Peacekeeping Capabilities funds to develop a national peace-keeping training center.



- Through the "Department of Defense HIV/AIDS Initiative" program, we provide US\$1 million to assist the SANDF in curbing the transmission of HIV through education and training. This program is for the 70,000 military and civilian members of SANDF.

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WHAT HAS HAPPENED?

- U.S. Air Force (USAF) sent aircraft to the September 2002 Aerospace and Defense Show. USAF pilots and their South African Air Force counterparts conducted joint training.
- U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense and USAF Surgeon General led a delegation of 30 members to the International Congress of Military Medicine held in South Africa, September 2002.
- U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Sherman rescued the crew of a transport carrier off the Eastern Cape coast in June 2001.
- U.S. troops and aircraft joined with SANDF in Operation Atlas Response to provide humanitarian relief to flood-stricken areas in Mozambique in 2001.
- U.S. contributed US\$1.5 million to support the Inter-Congolese Dialogue in South Africa.
- In FY 2001 U.S. European Command gave over US\$200,000 to renovate schools and donated excess medical supplies and furniture for school and clinics.



WHAT'S NEXT?

- U.S. will continue to work with South Africa to resolve regional crises.
- U.S. Air Force will provide technical and instructor pilot training.
- The U.S.-sponsored African Center for Strategic Studies will hold a Senior Leaders Seminar in 2004 in South Africa.
- SANDF-U.S. military exercises, such as the FLINTLOCK and West African Training Cruise (aimed at improving amphibious joint operations), are scheduled for 2003.
- A visit to South Africa by a U.S. aircraft carrier has been agreed in principle by both countries.
- The U.S. is exploring the opportunity to assist in the deployment of South African forces in the DRC for UN peacekeeping.
- South Africa will renovate a Regional Health and Disaster Response Management training facility using funds provided by the U.S.



EXCHANGE OF VISITS

U.S. and South Africa conduct regular exchanges, ranging from high level military officials to groups from defense colleges, to cadets and midshipmen. SANDF members study at several U.S. military institutions and installations.

SANDF personnel have taken a range of courses including: Defense Resource Management, Peace-keeping for Decision Makers, Leadership Program in Trauma and Disaster Systems Management, Civil Military Relations, Legal Military Justice, International Health Resource Management, and Equal Opportunity for Staff Advisors.

USEFUL WEBSITES

U.S. Department of State:

<http://www.usinfo.state.gov/topical/pol/>

<http://www.usinfo.state.gov/topical/pol/conflict/keynogs/>

[http://www.usinfo.state.gov/africa/peace & security](http://www.usinfo.state.gov/africa/peace%20&%20security)

Center for Defense Information:

<http://cdi.org/>

National Defense University:

<http://www.ndu.edu/>

U.S. Department of Defense:

<http://www.defenselink.mil/>

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